Preface

On 26 and 27 March 2002 an international colloquium was held in Santiago, Chile on the following theme: Towards Regional Currency Areas. Gathering around 100 participants, academics, central bankers, representatives of the main international financial institutions (IMF, ECB, OECD, BIS, ECLAC and so forth), in the prestigious backdrop of ECLAC's Raül Prebisch Conference Room, this colloquium was organized by Fondation de la Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, CEFI (UMR 6126, CNRS-University of the Mediterranean, Aix-Marseille II), CEPIL, ECLAC and *Revue Economique*. Nearly 60 contributions were presented and many themes were dealt with: exchange rate regimes and optimal currency area theory, exchange rate regimes in emerging countries, international capital markets and regional currency areas, the experience of the creation of the EMU and the euro, exchange rate regimes in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America, dollarization, the coordination of macroeconomic policies in the presence of regional currency areas and so on.

Combined with the publication of a special issue of *Revue Economique*, *Macroeconomics of Exchange-Rate Regimes* (54 (5), September 2003), this book was edited by Patrick Artus, André Cartapanis and Florence Legros. It offers a selection of the interventions dedicated to the stakes and challenges associated with projects of regional currency areas against the backdrop of financial globalization.